a hollow projecting portion projecting into the first unit from the second unit and rotatably engaged with the first unit, the projecting portion extending to be coaxial with a rotation center axis of the hinge portion and rotatably supporting the second unit with respect to the first unit, the projecting portion defining a communication path which extends to be coaxial with the rotation center axis of the hinge portion and has one end communicating with an inner space of the first unit and another end communicating with an inner space of the second unit;

a light emission element provided in the first unit for emitting an optical signal to the second unit through the communication path; and

a light receive element arranged in the second unit so as to face the light emission element through the communication path for receiving the optical signal from the light emission element.

12. A portable electronic apparatus according to claim **11**, wherein the projecting portion includes shield means for shielding the optical signal passing through the communication path from external noise.

13. A portable electronic apparatus according to claim **11**, wherein the light emission element is provided so as to face one end of the communication path, and the light receive element is provided so as to face another end of the communication path.

14. A portable electronic apparatus according to claim **1**, wherein the light emission element is fitted in the end of the projecting portion, and the light receive element is fitted in another end of the projecting portion.

15. A portable electronic apparatus comprising:

an apparatus body;

a display device rotatably connected with the apparatus body through a hinge portion, and including display means for displaying an image;

a hollow projecting portion projecting into the apparatus body from the display device and rotatably engaged with the apparatus body, the projecting portion extending to be coaxial with a rotation center axis of the hinge portion and rotatably supporting the display device with respect to the apparatus body, the projecting portion defining a communication path which extends to be coaxial with the rotation center axis of the hinge portion and has one end communicating with an inner space of the apparatus body and another end communicating with an inner space of the display device;

a light emission element arranged in the apparatus body for emitting an optical signal in the form of image data to the display device through the communication path; and

a light receive element arranged in the display device so as to face the light emission element through the communication path for receiving the optical signal from the light emission element.

16. A portable electronic apparatus according to claim **15**, wherein the projecting portion includes shield means for shielding the image signal passing through the communication path from external noise.

17. A portable electronic apparatus according to claim **15**, further comprising circuit means arranged in the apparatus body for supplying the image data to the light emission element, and conversion circuit means provided in the display device for converting the optical signal received by the light receive element into the image signal and for supplying the image signal to the display means.

18. A portable electronic apparatus according to claim **15**, further comprising circuit means provided in the apparatus body for supplying the image data to the light emission element, and conversion circuit means provided in the display device for converting the optical signal received by the light receive element into the image signal, and for supplying the image signal to the display means.

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